

WALSH SAFETY HUDDLE #27 - Walsh Entry Procedures / Air Monitoring and Ventilating

❖ **Procedures for entering a Confined Space**

❖ **General**

- What is a confined space? **Await answers.** (Limited access, entrap/engulf, pos. haz atmosphere)
- Entry into and work performed within confined spaces shall be accomplished so that safety, health and fire protection procedures are maintained at all times.
- All employees required to enter into a confined space shall be instructed in:
 - The nature of the hazard involved (Atmosphere, Entrapment, Access).
 - The precautions required (Air Monitoring, Retrieval/rescue, attendant-entrant training, documents).
 - The use of personal protective equipment and emergency equipment required.
- No employee shall be permitted to enter a confined space unless the following steps have been completed:
 - Atmosphere is tested and ventilated as needed.
 - Employee is equipped (PPE) for protection from airborne contaminants and will be retrievable.
- Where presence of toxic gas is suspect, appropriate gas tests will be performed immediately prior to entry to determine the presence of any harmful gases, fumes, mists, vapors, smoke, dusts or an oxygen deficiency.
 - During the presence of the worker in the confined space to ensure harmful concentrations of gases, vapors, smoke fumes, mists or dusts or any oxygen deficiency has not developed, gas test results will be taken and logged.

❖ **Environmental Testing**

- Required prior to entry of any Permit Required or Non-Permit required confined space.
- Performed with electronic gas detection equipment.
- A confined space found to have or suspected of having oxygen deficiency or exceeding flammable or toxic limits shall be:
 - Reported promptly to the crew's supervisor.
 - Classified as "permit required" and posted with the appropriate warning signs.
 - Management should re-assess entrant needs in a revision to the JHA they are operating under.
- All monitoring and testing equipment will be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications (calibration, servicing, storage). **Demonstrate calibration check on MSA**

❖ **Personal Protective Equipment**

- Work and/or rescue equipment shall be immediately available at all times and shall be selected during the JHA planning session with the potential hazards or possible contingencies determining the equipment which may be required.
- Appropriate eye, face, and ear protection and the designated protective clothing shall be worn by employees exposed to physical hazards.
- Employees entering a confined space where a harmful or potentially harmful atmosphere exists, shall wear an approved safety harness attached to a life line which is attended at all times by another worker stationed outside the confined space entrance. The outside worker (attendant) shall be equipped to be capable of immediately rescuing the worker in the confined space. A mechanical device shall be used to retrieve personnel from vertical spaces more than 5 feet deep.
- Communication must be established between entrants and the attendant, and the attendant must have 911 contact capabilities.
- Where the work being performed requires more than one worker to enter the confined space, provisions shall be made to prevent safety lines or air hoses from becoming entangled.



Walsh's Standard Air Monitors

First step when dealing with a confined space is to determine if it is a Permit Required or Non-Permit Required.

If in question, **ASK!!!**

Always get others involved



Blowers used to circulate air in confined spaces



Will my Excavation become a Confined Space?

